

King County Office of Regional Policy and Planning



Regional Governance Team Quarterly Activity Report 1st Quarter 2001

Governance Projects

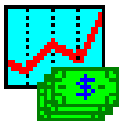
The Regional Governance Team manages or coordinates County participation in a variety of governance studies, annexation negotiations and financial analyses related to the implementation of the Growth Management Act.

KIRKLAND POTENTIAL ANNEXATION AREA (PAA) DISCUSSION

In 2000, ORPP staff participated in the City's annexation study which assessed the fiscal feasibility of annexing the neighborhoods of Finn Hill, Juanita, and Kingsgate. With the Study completed, ORPP has recently begun discussions with the City to outline a pre-annexation agreement. Such an agreement would include phasing, the transfer of services, capital projects, and potentially other assets including Juanita Beach Park to the city. It is hoped that the County and City will construct a pre-annexation agreement during 2001.

NORTH HIGHLINE COST/REVENUE STUDY

Following up the 1999 North Highline Governance Study, ORPP has begun assessing the cost and revenues to adjacent cities (Seattle and Burien) if they were to annex a portion of the North Highline community. Gauging annexation costs from the city's perspective will create information the cities and County will be able to rely on in assessing future annexation scenarios and discussions.



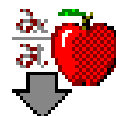
THE PETROVITSKY CORRIDOR GOVERNANCE OPTIONS REPORT

This study was released in Fall 2000 and

analyzes the potential future governance options for a large unincorporated area located Southeast of Renton, including incorporation as a new City and annexation to Renton. The report compares public services levels and taxes of King County and Renton and evaluates the financial feasibility of incorporation. Incorporation was not found to be financially feasible under current conditions. With current tax revenues, a hypothetical new City would be able to cover basic operating expenses, but unable to fund a Capital Improvement Program. Lower than average per capita assessed property values, sales tax revenues, and the elimination of sales tax equalization revenues under I-695 were significant factors affecting feasibility of incorporation. The full study can be viewed online at <http://www.metrokc.gov/exec/orpp/tranteam/petrovitsky/>

FEDERAL WAY ANNEXATION STUDY

In December 2000, King County ORPP signed an interagency agreement with the City of Federal Way under which ORPP will cooperate in the city's Potential Annexation Area Study. The study will determine the timing and financial feasibility of annexing the unincorporated I-5 Corridor within the City's potential Annexation Area. The County is contributing staff time plus \$40,000 to the City's \$200,000 multi-year study. The project is expected to begin in the second quarter of 2001.



Interlocal Agreements

The Team, in collaboration with affected County Departments, negotiates agreements with Cities for property transfers, contract services, and other issues essential to the smooth transition of governance activities.

SEATAC PARKS TRANSFER AGREEMENT

Through a cooperative effort, King County Parks and the City of SeaTac's Parks Department have agreed to the transfer of three local parks to the City. Grandview Park, Sunset Park and Des Moines Creek Park will provide the City with much needed parks and recreational opportunities. It is expected that the County Council will take action on the transfer agreement in April 2001.

REDMOND WATERSHED TRAILS AGREEMENT

In 1992 King County and the City of Redmond entered into an interlocal cooperative agreement to develop and jointly maintain a regional trail system through the Redmond Watershed property. Pursuant to terms of the agreement, the County and City are to renegotiate the terms of the agreement every five years. The 2001 version gradually lessens County's contribution toward trail maintenance as other regional trails in the vicinity are developed by King County Parks and private developers.

KENMORE PARKS TRANSFER

Five local parks were transferred to the City of Kenmore in the 1st Quarter of 2001. The properties include Tracy Owen, Kenmore,



Wallace Swamp Creek, Moorlands and Linwood Parks, all passive park

facilities used mostly by local residents for informal recreation. In addition, \$106,221 in fee-in-lieu parks funds were transferred to the City for use in acquisition and development of parks open space and recreational facilities. These two transfers comprise the final steps in

the incorporation transition of the City of Kenmore

LAKE WILDERNESS LOCAL EXTENSION TRANSFER

King County transferred an approximately 5-acre piece of park property adjacent to Lake Wilderness Park to the City of Maple Valley in Fall 2000. The Lake Wilderness Local Extension property includes the Maple Valley Community Center site, Skateboard Park and the Maple Valley Historical Society site – all used primarily by local residents. This Summer, the City and County plan to negotiate the transfer of a neighboring park property informally referred to as Lake Wilderness Peninsula. The City is in the process of developing their Parks plan which will include a proposal for utilizing the area.

Annexations

Team staff members review all annexation and incorporation notices filed with the Boundary Review Board for King County, coordinate Department comments, testify at public hearings and work closely with BRB and City staff to resolve issues and problems arising from a transition in governance.

CITY OF REDMOND 172ND AVE. NE ANNEXATION

The 172nd Ave. NE annexation adds approximately 21.8 acres and 24 residents to the City. The annexation area is adjacent to the existing northern city boundary.

HENRY'S SWITCH PIT TRANSFER TO MAPLE VALLEY

In December 2000, the City of Maple Valley and King County came to agreement on the terms of sale for the surplus "Henry's Switch



Pit" property owned by the King County Roads Division since 1965. The surplus property was sold to the City for \$390,000. The City

purchased the 14.2 acre parcel located in the northwest corner of the intersection of SE 288th Street and SR 169 to augment its budding park system. The property will provide passive and

active recreation and will also likely provide a future trailhead location for the Cedar/Green River trail.

***CITY OF RENTON MERLINO
ANNEXATION***

[\[click here for map\]](#)

The annexation area is approximately 87.5 acres in size and is generally located between the Black River Riparian Forest and Martin Luther King Way. Approximately half of the site is home of the Stoneway Rock and Recycling operation. The annexation generated considerable interest from the community, the West Hill UAC, and several environmental groups. King County Executive Ron Sims at the request of the West Hill UAC asked the Washington State Boundary Review Board for King County (BRB) to hold public hearings on the annexation proposal. The BRB held four evenings of public hearings before deciding to approve the annexation on January 31, 2001. While the BRB faced many issues, ORPP questioned the city's past action in deleting the West Hill area from its PAA in 1998 and argued that no annexations should take place until there is broader agreement on the future of West Hill. As a result, the City and County have begun a dialogue over the West Hill area, its future governance and the possibility of placing it back in the City's PAA. An appeal of the BRB's decision was filed by unincorporated area residents in King County Superior Court on March 5, 2001. The appeal delays the finalization of the annexation.

***CITY OF BELLEVUE WESTLAKE
SAMMAMISH ANNEXATION***

[\[click here for map\]](#)

The City of Bellevue Westlake Sammamish Annexation became final on March 14, 2001. The 523 acre annexation includes portions of the Southeast Bellevue, Eastgate, and Newcastle subareas. The sizeable annexation incorporates the remaining area lying generally east of interstate 90, adjacent to the City's corporate boundary.

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